

09/674638  
526 Rec'd PCT/US 02 NOV 2000

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Hidekuni MORIYA, et al.

Appln. No. Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit:

Filed: November 02, 2000

Examiner:

For: IMAGE DATA BACKGROUND DETERMINING APPARATUS, IMAGE DATA BACKGROUND DETERMINING METHOD, AND MEDIUM RECORDING THEREON IMAGE DATA BACKGROUND DETERMINATION CONTROL PROGRAM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

09/674638

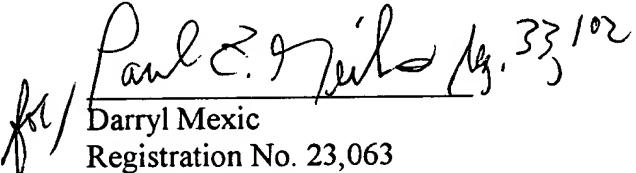
526 Rec'd PCT/US 02 NOV 2000

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
Attorney Docket No. Q60961

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860  
DM/plr  
Date: November 2, 2000